Central Team visited the drought and flood affected areas of Karnataka from 16th to 18th March, 2000. Their report was examined/considered by the Inter-Ministerial Group (IMG). The report of the Central Team and recommendations of the IMG thereon were considered by the National Calamity Relief Committee (NCRC) in its meeting held on 27-3-2000 and it approved an assistance of Rs. 17.09 crore from NFCR. This amount was released to the State Government by the Ministry of Finance on 31-3-2000. This was in addition to the allocation of Rs. 48.39 crore to the State under Calamity Relief Fund for 1999-2000.

Establishment of Fisheries Training and Extension Centres

2940. SHRI KHAGEN DAS : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to sanction the project for establishing "Fisheries Training and Extension Centres" in three districts of Tripura and also project for establishment of inland fish and fish seed marketing network in Tripura;

(b) if so, by when it will be sanctioned; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) to (c) The Government of India have sanctioned one Fish Farmers Training Centre for establishment in the district of Agartala in Tripura State during the year 1999-2000. Consideration of establishment of further centres will be subject to receipt of physical and financial progress report of the first training Centre. As the Central Sector Scheme on "Strengthening of Infrastructure for Inland Fish Marketing" has since been discontinued with effect from 1996-97, the Ministry of Agriculture have no proposal to sanction any project for establishment of Inland fish and fish seed marketing network for Tripura State.

Technology to Process Nuclear Waste

2941 SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that new technology has been developed to process the nuclear waste;